

ISLAND PLAN

CHARTING THE FUTURE OF THE VINEYARD

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Island Plan Steering Committee

Held on Thursday, October 5, 2006, 5:00 p.m.

In the Tisbury Senior Center, Pine Tree Lane, Tisbury, MA

IN ATTENDANCE (P = Present; - = Absent)

P John Abrams	- Ann Floyd	P Russell Smith
- Clarissa Allen	- Ray Laporte	P Bret Stearns
P James Athearn	P Ned Orleans	P Henry Stephenson
- Prudence Burt	P Kerry Scott	P Paul Strauss
P Tom Chase	P Linda Sibley	P Richard Toole
- Steve Ewing	- Elio Silva	P Susan Wasserman

Work Group Cores Members (excluding those who are also Steering Committee members)

Energy & Waste: Phil Forest, Don Hatch, Kitt Johnson, Paul Pimentel, Bart Smith, Kate Warner

Housing: Candy DaRosa, Philippe Jordi, Marge Harris, Rob Kendall, Harvey Beth, Ben Moore

Livelihood & Commerce: Steve Bernier, Sherm Goldstein, Pat Gregory, Phil Hale, Sandy Rae, Sean Welch

Natural Environment: Tim Boland, Judy Crawford, Brendan O'Neill, Tom Wallace

Water Resources: Matt Poole, Joe Alosso, Dave Grunden, Bruce Rosinoff, Deacon Perotta, Terry Appenzellar, Melinda Loberg, Wendy Culbert

Staff: Mark London (Executive Director), Christine Flynn (Affordable Housing & Economic Planner), Jim Miller (Transportation Planner), Jo-Ann Taylor (Coastal Planner), Bill Veno (Senior Planner), Bill Wilcox (Water Resource Planner)

Facilitator: Robert Leaver

Planning Advisors: Mimi Davisson, Holly Stephenson, Marnie Stanton, John Bradford

1. Welcome and Introductions

Jim Athearn welcomed the Steering Committee members, staff and citizens who had accepted the task of serving on the Core of one of five work groups. Each person in the room introduced himself or herself. (a list of all members of the Work Group Cores is in appendix 2)

2. Briefing on Island Plan

Mark London gave a PowerPoint presentation on the following items (see the Overview of the Planning Process in appendix 1):

- the planning context including changing land use on the Vineyard, past and projected development and population growth,
- the purpose of the Island Plan;
- the structure of the process including the roles of the Steering Committee, the Work Groups, and the Network of Planning Advisors,
- the four broad themes – community, ecology, economy, and land;
- the big ideas/issues for which the Steering Committee will take the lead, namely: the impact of global and regional issues, sustainability, development, the next economy, the relation between the overall Island and individual towns, and the Vineyard identity,
- the ten topic areas which will be the subject of efforts by the Work Groups, namely the first wave of energy/waste, housing, livelihood/commerce, natural environment, and water resources, and the second wave of built environment, culture/history, governance, health/education, and transportation.

Several Committee members added comments:

- Kerry Scott – “Instead of trying to salvage the past, let’s create the Vineyard we want.”
- Tom Chase – “Feasibility is an important term, but the last to consider...” when looking at what needs to be done.
- Linda Sibley – Emphasized the unusually strong powers the Vineyard community possesses—not available virtually anywhere else—in the District of Critical Planning Concern (DCPC) and Development of Regional Impact (DRI), tools available to the towns through the Martha’s Vineyard Commission. She said the community has not fully explored the capabilities of these tools.
- John Abrams – The Committee has also emphasized using incentives, rather than just regulations, to help direct people’s actions.

3. Work Groups

John Abrams ran through the mandate of the Work Groups and the specific responsibilities of the Work Group Cores (see Work Group Scope of Work in appendix 3). Since between forty and ninety people have expressed interest in each Work Group topic, the Steering Committee concluded that it was essential that there be a small, representative core with the mandate to move the process forward and take responsibility for the formulation of recommendations.

4. Meeting Facilitation and Consensus Decision-Making

Robert Leaver commented on two of the roles of the Work Group Cores, seeking consensus on activities and issues, and facilitation.

- Consensus can alternately be construed as a majority of a group, a super majority, a "sense of the group," or unanimity. The Island Plan process should seek to achieve the sense of the group; if some people disagree with some aspects, they publicly support the majority for the purpose of moving forward.
- Facilitation was defined by John Abrams as "a license and responsibility that everyone is heard." A facilitator helps a meeting run easily, and helps a group move forward by asking questions and waiting for responses, and by throwing out ideas to prompt discussion.

5. Starting Work

The five Work Group Cores for Energy & Waste, Housing, Livelihood & Commerce, Natural Environment and Water Resources simultaneously met to discuss what members hope to give and get from participating in the group, what information is needed to get started, and expectations for the group's achievement. [Notes from each of these sessions are in appendix 4.]

6. What Can We Achieve Collectively

The Steering Committee meeting closed with each Work Group Core reporting to everyone the "nuggets" of its session:

Energy & Waste

- Create public buy-in for smart energy and solid waste management
- Focus on raising visibility of energy and waste management issues

Housing

- Plan for Smart Growth, sustainable economy
- Develop resources, inclusive of talents, money and opportunities
- There is considerable information available; the challenge is selecting those strategies most pertinent for the Vineyard now
- The community supports the general idea, but the challenge is overcoming specific issues with projects and proposals
- Address all linkages, everything is connected to housing!

Livelihood & Commerce

- The economy is connected to everything else
- It is hard to plan for the economy; the economy just "is" ; we need to identify what is doable
- We don't know enough yet to plan for the future
- A difficult but rewarding conversation is what is sustainable? What is a healthy, durable economy?

Natural Environment

- Be a resource to the other Work Groups
- Long-term, visionary goals, emphasizing effective, action-oriented strategies; think outside of the box
- Select strategies that are incentive-based, do not vilify any segment of the community, and generate public enthusiasm

Water Resources

- Be a resource to other groups and maintain contact with other groups
- Focus on things that can be done soon (shorter timeframe due to much coming change in technology and land use)
- Pick the low-hanging fruit; get quick successes and use the media to relate accomplishments back to the larger Island Plan effort

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

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Appendix 1

Island Plan – Work Group Cores – Initial Members

Updated: 10/6/06

	Energy/Waste	Housing	Livelihood/ Commerce	Natural Environment	Water Resources
Steering Committee Liaison	Russell Smith	Richard Toole	John Abrams	Tom Chase	Bret Stearns
Core Group Members	Phil Forest Don Hatch Kitt Johnson Dick Knabel Fred Lapiana Paul Pimentel Bart Smith Kate Warner	Harvey Beth Christina Brown Candy DaRosa Marge Harris Philippe Jordi Rob Kendall Ben Moore	Steve Bernier Sherm Goldstein Pat Gregory Phil Hale Sandy Ray Sean Welch	Tim Boland Judy Crawford Dick Johnson Brendan O'Neill Matt Pelikan Leah Smith Tom Wallace	Joe Alosso Terry Appenzellar Wendy Culbert Dave Grunden Melinda Loberg Matt Poole Deacon Perotta Bruce Rosinoff Craig Saunders
Staff	Bill Veno	Christine Flynn	Mark London	Jo-Ann Taylor	Bill Wilcox
Other Steering Committee Members	Paul Strauss		Jim Athearn Linda Sibley		

Overview of the Planning Process

Updated September 28, 2006

The preparation of an Island Plan is underway. The mission statement is:

The Island Plan will chart – in simple but compelling ways – a course to the kind of future that the Vineyard community wants and design a series of actions to help us navigate that course.

It is anticipated that it will take about two years to complete the plan. The intention is to seek consensus on goals and policies, and to emphasize public commitment to bold, achievable solutions. The aim is to identify achievable objectives and measurable targets for the plan as a whole and within specific topic areas, and to outline specific strategies to reach them. These could include programs, incentives, regulations, and other actions to be carried out by the Martha's Vineyard Commission, by the towns, and by other entities. The Martha's Vineyard Commission will adopt the plan as the official regional plan.

Themes: The plan will deal with four broad themes and how they interact:

- Economy
- Community
- Ecology
- Land

Topics: The plan will focus on specific topic areas, with the help of work groups. Efforts on the first wave of topics begin in October 2006. These topics are:

- Energy & Waste
- Housing
- Livelihood & Commerce
- Natural Environment
- Water Resources

The second wave of topics, whose work groups should begin next spring, are:

- Built Environment
- Culture & History
- Governance
- Health & Education
- Transportation

Who's Who

Steering Committee: A Steering Committee was set up by the Martha's Vineyard Commission to oversee both the content and the process of the plan. It will be responsible for:

- Overarching, interdisciplinary vision, goals, and strategies.
- Identification and analysis of major alternatives.
- Coordination of interdependencies and trade-offs between topic areas.
- Finalize the planning documents and recommend them for adoption to the Martha's Vineyard Commission.

The members of the Steering Committee are: Jim Athearn (Chair) John Abrams, Clarissa Allen, Prudence Burt, Tom Chase, Steve Ewing, Ann Floyd, Ray LaPorte, Ned Orleans, Kerry Scott, Linda Sibley, Elio Silva, Russell Smith, Bret Stearns, Henry Stephenson, Paul Strauss, Richard Toole, Woody Vanderhoop, Susan Wasserman

Network of Planning Advisors: A group of several hundred Vineyarders, open to anyone who wishes to participate, who closely follow the planning process and give their input at key times. Members will:

- Receive a survey every couple of months and should be willing to respond,
- Be invited to participate in forums, work groups, and other planning activities,
- Receive draft documents and will be invited to comment on them.

Work Groups: Work groups are being set up to focus efforts on specific topics. The mandate is to identify overall goals and objectives, to identify short, medium, and long-term measurable benchmarks, and to outline strategies to achieve them such as policies, incentives, regulations, projects, and other actions.

Staff: The planning effort will be supported by the specialized expertise of the Martha's Vineyard Commission staff, and outside expertise and assistance (consultants, interns, etc.) will be brought in as needed.

Facilitators: A group of Vineyarders has volunteered to help facilitate various activities. Robert Leaver of New Commons is advising on the overall process and is facilitating major events.

Funding: The Island Plan is funded by the towns, by grants, and by donations from foundations and individuals.



Island Plan Work Groups – Outline Scope of Work

Updated: September 28, 2006

As part of the preparation of the Island Plan for Martha's Vineyard, the Steering Committee is creating a number of Work Groups to focus efforts on specific topics. The purpose of each group is to:

- Identify overall goals for their topic area,
- Identify short- and medium-term measurable benchmarks and long-term measurable targets,
- Outline an implementation plan to reach these benchmarks with strategies such as policies, incentives, regulations, projects, and other actions.
- Assemble all data and information including any additional studies necessary to carry out the work.

Work Group: The Work Group for each topic area will be made up of any member of the Network of Planning Advisors who wishes to join the group. (There are now between 40 and 90 people who have expressed interest in each topic). Members of the Work Group will have an opportunity to:

- Participate in work sessions at key points in the process.
- Receive notification, and be welcome to attend, meetings of the Work Group Core (see below). Receive minutes of these meetings.
- Have access to the topic's on-line forum, which will give an opportunity to provide input at any time.
- Be invited by the Core to offer specific intelligence or expertise throughout the process.
- Come in or out of the process as they wish.

Work Group Core: The Island Plan Steering Committee has appointed a Work Group Core that embodies a breadth of know-how, perspective, and authority, yet is small enough (7-10 people) to work effectively and is willing to make the required time commitment. The core will be responsible for the ongoing efforts of the Work Group. Each Core will include at least one member of the Steering Committee who will have a special responsibility to act as liaison between the two groups, and will act as chair for the first month or two, after which the group core may select a new chair or add a co-chair from its membership. The Core may ask the Steering Committee to appoint additional members over time.

The following scope of work defines the direction, boundaries and authority of a Work Group. Once each group starts to work and learn, it can flesh out or this scope in more detail, or modify

it as necessary, in consultation with the Steering Committee. This outline is intended to describe a process, not a fixed program. Each Work Group will receive direction and feedback from the Island Plan Steering Committee.

Mandate

The following are the essential elements of the Work Group's mandate.

- 1) Mission:** Describe the primary expectation and the overall philosophical direction. Think of mission as the reason for being or the ultimate intention or result.
- 2) Interdependencies:** Identify specific areas where the Work Group will have to collaborate with the Steering Committee, with other *Island Plan* Work Groups, and also with other Island projects and/or organizations. This includes identifying how the topic affects and is affected by each of the other topics. The Steering Committee will facilitate coordination with other Work Groups for areas of interdependency.
- 3) Current and Emerging Conditions:** Define the full picture of the current reality surrounding the topic as you now understand it. State the truths and the facts that describe the current and emerging conditions. What is absent from the picture of conditions? Where are the gaps?
- 4) State the Broad Qualitative Goal:** Think of this goal as a timeless statement. For example with housing it could be: "Ensure a full housing continuum on Martha's Vineyard with housing at all price points reflecting the diverse needs of Island residents."
- 5) State the Targets and Benchmarks:** Within this qualitative goal, what are the three or four most important performance standards or measurable targets to be achieved within 50 years? With each target, what are the 5-, 10-, and 20-year benchmarks for the Island to pursue?
- 6) Momentum/Leverage:** What is already in motion or planned that the community can capitalize upon to achieve the goals, benchmarks and target? This could include recent successes, a champion, a project underway, a project planned, or results from another project.
- 7) Barriers/Blocks:** What are the primary obstacles on the path? What is in the way of success? What are the most likely ways to overcome these obstacles? Where may end runs be required?
- 8) Strategies:** For each target, state and describe what strategies the team proposes to reach the goals, targets, and benchmarks. These can include policies, regulations, incentives, programs, and/or projects to be implemented by various public and private entities. For each proposed strategy, indicate:
 1. Authority - What entity would be responsible for implementation and what other entities would be involved in implementing the proposed strategies, and do they have the required authority;
 2. Resources - What resources will the community need to implement the strategies;
 3. Timetable - What the proposed timetable is for implementation

- 9) **Heart and Soul:** What will infuse this subject, and this part of the *Island Plan*, with heart and soul? What will give it spirit and make it come alive for the people of the Vineyard? How can we express it in particularly engaging ways?

Process and Logistics

- 1) **Resources:** What know-how, know-who, and data does the Work Group require to complete its work? Include all materials generated at the first Island forum. In some cases, it might be possible for the Commission to hire an intern or consultant; the group chair should discuss this with the MVC Executive Director.
- 2) **Limits.** State what this Work Group will not or cannot address. Be specific. What is out of bounds? Stating what the Work Group won't examine helps define a sharper scope for the actual work.
- 3) **Tasks and Timeline.** It is up to each Work Group Core to organize the work as it wishes. Outline the tasks needed to fulfill the mandate and identify by what date will this group produce what. Identify the first phase – the first 4 to 6 tasks as you now see them. State how much time this group will require to complete its first phase of work. When tasks are completed, check them off and move onto the next ones. The aim should be to have completed a first draft of the groups' recommendations by next summer. We will set up some interim target dates to allow coordination with other efforts, such as a work program by the end of November 2006 and an outline of proposals by the end of the winter.
- 4) **Meetings and Communications.**
 - Meetings should be held in public places such as the MVC offices, other town offices, other public buildings, or places of business,
 - Our understanding is that these meetings are not subject to the Open Meeting Law (in that the Work Groups and Cores are not decision-making entities). Nevertheless, it would be best to follow the Law's principles, including providing 48 hours notice (this can be posted on the Island Plan website calendar) and ensuring that all meetings are open.
 - There should be notes or minutes of all meetings, which indicate who was there, what decisions were made, and which summarize the main ideas discussed and dissenting opinions on decisions, preferably in point form. These should be a maximum of two pages long. It is suggested that Cores adopt the procedure used by the Steering Committee, whereby a draft version is distributed by e-mail only to its members for review; after 48 hours, the minutes incorporating any corrections, are finalized by the Chair and distributed. It would be best to designate two people – a member of the Core and the MVC staff member – to share responsibility for taking notes.
 - Groups are encouraged to make use of the Island Plan website which will facilitate members communicating with each other and sharing ideas. (More information will come once this is up and running.)
- 5) **Decision-Making.** For each Work Group, decision-making will be the responsibility of the Core and will use an inclusive consensus, decision-making process. If consensus

cannot be achieved at any time, decisions may be made by a back-up two-thirds supermajority (two thirds of the Core members present at the time voting in favor). Three or more members of the Work Group may jointly express minority opinions. The Steering Committee will have the responsibility of final review of the results of all Work Groups and determining how to assemble the information into a coherent, unified *Island Plan*.

- 6) Facilitation.** Later this fall, after the permanent chairs and co-chairs of each group are selected, we will hold a facilitation training session for all chairs and co-chairs. Also, a number of Islanders have volunteered to act as facilitators for the Island Planning process and can be called on when needed, for example, for meetings of the whole Work Group. We might have a facilitator attached to each work group. Robert Leaver of New Commons is helping the Steering Committee with this aspect of the process.

Version 5: Updated: September 25, 2006

Based on the work of New Commons

Energy and Waste Work Group Core - Notes of Meeting of October 5, 2006

Present: *Phil Forest, Don Hatch, Kitt Johnson, Paul Pimentel, Bart Smith, Kate Warner*

- Community support for best practices
- Community recognition and elevated status for energy & waste issues
- Island wide energy neutrality with generation
- Not include non point source waste (ie: septic/cars)
- Hope to find "homegrown" energy and convince community
- Make building codes energy smart and focused
- Merge towns treatment of waste and improve efficiency
- Create Energy DCPC
- Create enough clean energy so people do not have to sacrifice lifestyle
- Raise people consciousness
- Pilot program for ethanol from cellular waste
- Change flush it and forget it attitude
- Create jobs while dealing with issues
- Work for public "buy in"
- Less shipping of waste-more recycling
- Composting may be viable
- Create island energy office
- Act locally for global impact
- Institutionalize smart consumption of energy
- Elevate waste and energy to the same level of public awareness as housing and conservation
- Use landfill gases

Next Meeting 10/11/06 8:00 am – 10:00 am @ SSA meeting room Vineyard Haven

Housing Work Group Core - Notes of Meeting of October 5, 2006

Present: Candy DaRosa, Philippe Jordi, Marge Harris, Rob Kendall, Harvey Beth, Ben Moore

1. What does each member hope to give (bring) to the group?

Some things are: Harvey brings his experiences in business, budget, government, and oversight; Candy brings real estate and funding experiences; Richard brings his experience with the MV Commission inclusive of DRI (Districts of Regional Impact) and overall planning; Rob brings many years of experience in land planning and use that should keep us from making similar mistakes; Marge brings her linkage with the educational community of MV; Christine (Flynn) brings 7.5 years of experience with the MV Commission.

2. What information is needed to get going?

We need to:

- Review the existing body of knowledge as regards housing (history);
- Collaborate with planning boards and other community resources;
- Get young involved and invested;
- Research the zoning by-laws;
- Know the history of the development of Smart Growth Planning;
- Review some DRI proceedings;
- Be pro-active!

3. What are each member's main expectations for the group's achievements (goals, strategies, heart and soul)?

- Create collaborative connections;
- Develop incentives;
- Prevent a future of elderly and rich people served by a commuting workforce from New Bedford;
- Re-direct zoning efforts;
- Regionalization/ collaboration/ cooperation....whatever word works for this concept!
- NIMBY
- Our kids should be able to live here;
- Deal with seasonal, year-round, aging populations;
- Future for islanders to own homes;

4. Overall Plan:

- Have positive impact;
- Plan for Smart Growth—sustainable economy!
- Develop resources—inclusive of talents, money and opportunities;
- Universal Education.
- Address all linkages.....to other core groups and to affordability. Everything is connected to housing!

Whatever small piece we do....make it work!

Livelihood/Commerce Work Group Core - Notes of Meeting of October 5, 2006:

Present: John Abrams (Chair), Sherm Goldstein, Phil Hale, Pat Gregory, Sean Welch, Sandy Ray, Holly Stevenson, Linda Sibley, Steve Bernier, Mark London, John Bradford

In its first meeting as a committee the members, all of whom were known to one another, expressed a healthy diversity of views, definitions and process all geared toward a common goal; that of issuing a cogent report, containing realistic, achievable, "do-able", recommendations concerning our area of study in as expedient a time frame as possible. Discussion centered on several issues.

It was generally agreed that this committee's potential mandate and range was very expansive, crossing over most, if not all, the other work groups. Success will require both group focus and a great deal of economic data, some likely not currently available, which must be either developed or supplied by MVC staff.

There was general agreement that no one present (including MVC staff), was aware of any previous similar efforts around the areas of the Vineyard's economy (much less its "underground economy"), and that we were probably working "a tabula rasa".

Goals and questions ahead of this committee include gaining clarity and agreement on the meanings and human effect of such terminology such as "growth", "balance" "sustainability", "diversity" and "a healthy economy".

The ability of the Vineyard (despite the MVC's very significant regulatory authority), to effectively shape its own economy, apart from the effects of the outside world, was raised with some skepticism on the potential for success voiced.

It was generally agreed (with the previously mentioned uncertainty around the meaning of these terms), that "economic growth" was necessary for the "growth", "well being" and economic future of the Island's current and future working population as well as a desire to see the increase in a viable, year-round middle class.

Opportunities for the Vineyard's current young people to function on MV to their "maximum capacity" and to find well paying and meaningful employment locally were noted as important. The role of the Island's educational system to "teach toward" fields for which employment opportunities might exist in this future economy was briefly discussed and fields of study included computer technician, electrical, agriculture, and hospitality, among others.

The absence of a representative from the entire planning process, and the usefulness of such representation, from the Martha's Vineyard Land Bank was noted and recorded by MVC staff.

The next meeting of this work group core is scheduled for 1-½ hours beginning at 4:00pm, October 11, 2006 in The Holmes Hole Room of Mansion House in Vineyard Haven.

Submitted by Sherm Goldstein - 10/06/06. Approved by Committee in meeting of 10/11/06.

Natural Environment Work Group Core - Notes of Meeting of October 5, 2006:

Present: Tim Boland, Tom Chase, Judy Crawford, Brendan O'Neill, Jo-Ann Taylor, Tom Wallace

Absent: Dick Johnson, Matt Pelikan, Leah Smith

Necessary Information Needed To Get Started

The Natural Environment Work Group Core felt the MVC planning maps (showing, for example, open space and development suitability) would be very useful, both for background as well as to help visualize the possible results of various strategies. These maps will be provided at the Wakeman Center for the next meeting, but generally will be available at the MVC when we meet there.

Main Expectations of the Work Group Core

- Long-term, visionary goals, with an emphasis on effective, action-oriented strategies
- An array of strategies (ranging from traditional, to borrowed to genuinely innovative) to meet short-, mid- and long-term goals
- Select strategies that are incentive-based, do not vilify any segment of our community, and generate public enthusiasm
- Above all, a holistic approach: the strategies from the Natural Environment Work Group should exceed the core goals of conservation and be integrated with and in service to the rest of the communities' goals

Logistics

The present members preferred lunchtime meetings, and chose to hold in advance the first and third Thursdays of each month as potential meeting dates. (We agreed we could modify the time and/or frequency as the work and our availability demanded). Face-to-face meetings were preferred and were understood to be necessary for any meeting requiring the larger Work Group. However when information exchange only required the Work Group's core, we agreed to meet by conference call, with additional e mail exchange. Tom Wallace generously offered to provide conference call facilities. We agreed that rotating meeting locations may lessen logistical burdens, and the MV Commission, Wakeman Center, and the offices of Wallace and Company, Polly Hill Arboretum and The Nature Conservancy were offered as potential meeting sites.

The next meeting will be at 11:30 on Thursday 19 October 2006 at the Wakeman Center.

Water Resources Work Group Core - Notes of Meeting of October 5, 2006:

Present: Bret Stearns, Chair, Craig Saunders, Bill Wilcox, Dave Grunden, Bruce Rosinoff, Wendy Culbert, Terry Appenzellar

Process

- Develop a master list of problem sites/areas
 - Survey network for identification of problems/issues to address
 - Post-it notes on wall charts to incorporate input from 50-70 people brainstorming either in person or electronically
- Need maps: have current pond and watershed with status, need island-wide sewer and sensitive areas
- Plan that is action-oriented, and not pie in the sky, sit on the shelf material
- Little Steps – communicate successes (early); low hanging fruit to demonstrate near term progress and that things can be done; putting strategies in play immediately if it is ready to go
- Big Steps
 - How is it going to get done; who is going to do it?
 - If we can't conceive of how an action is implemented, throw it out
- Projects that are in place, ongoing or already planned; how they fit into plan
- Other workgroup linkages: housing – if they throw out cluster development, water resource options are impacted; probably all other groups will need to consider water resources issues

Logistics

- Calendar of available meeting times electronically (Wilcox to distribute)
- Meet during day
- Meet several times in the near term to get going

Scope

- Water resources plan needs to address 2,5,10,20 years with less emphasis on 50
- Better 2-5-10 year plan is needed in order to have insight for future goals in outer years
- Technology may change in near term so projecting too far out may be OBE
- There will continue to be damage to water quality for the next two decades due to the last 30 years of septic disposal; need to address immediate and near term consequences as well as address futures
- Minimizing impacts – financial (what can individuals and communities afford)
- Definition of water resources: wastewater, ground water, coastal ponds, drinking water, private wells (Note: what about beaches/ocean?)
- Septic is BIG issue and a priority
- What is already on public sewage? What are near term plans for phasing-in additions?
 - What is the policy/criteria for adding to the sewer system?
 - Why do new developments take precedence over existing housing where residents in existing housing are the taxpayers who funded the sewer system

- Road runoff
- Consider piping into ocean (as in Oak Bluffs)
- Eelgrass restored
- What is going on
- What should happen – over short and long term
- Island-wide actions vs. town-wide (or town by town)
- Cooperation between town governments and agencies
- Examine scale of solutions (wastewater)
- Invisible concepts: problem of groundwater protection (how do we get the public to own the problem if it isn't obvious?)
- Complex issues that cross boundaries; some can only be addressed on regional basis
- Opportunity to make a difference
- Conservation of land – identify potential lots to further protect ponds/watershed
- Make a priority to establish property conservation goals for water quality protection
- Identify tools for management
- Look at successes and failures
- Get ready to take advantage of Mass Estuaries Project
- Infrastructure base: what exists for sewer or water quality
- Public education and awareness

Heart and Soul

- Presenting biodiversity of native aquatic communities – salt marshes, shellfish beds, eelgrass meadows, marshes in ponds/coves; prevent smothering algal mats already seen on Cape Cod
- Prevent rather than clean up; prevention of further damage to water resources should be a priority over recovery, especially without damage deterrence
- Public access to water resources; sharing water resources;
- Shared responsibility for protection and recovery of water resources
- Island-wide solutions – may redistribute the economic means to address and benefit from water quality prevention (sewering) or corrective measures